

Message Text

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43

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-15 ISO-00 PC-15 USIA-15 DODE-00

AGR-20 ACDA-19 INT-08 COME-00 FDRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /199 W
----- 074707

R 101715Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1604

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 NOUAKCHOTT 944

AFDROUGHT

ABIDJAN FOR REDSO

PARIS FOR HELMAN

ROME FOR SKILES

GENEVA FOR KLEIN

FROM FEI FOR ADAMS

EO 11652: NA

SUBJECT: MAURITANIA COUNTRY PROGRAM

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 937

SUMMARY: MAURITANIA PROGRAM REQUIRES COMPLEMENTARY TECHNICAL
INPUTS IN MANY PROJECTS. HOWEVER, GIRM RECOGNIZES LIMITATIONS

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AND IN FRANK, FRIENDLY, DETAILED DISCUSSIONS SHOWED PRAGMATIC

APPROACH AND REALISTIC ATTACK ON LARGE, URGENT NEEDS. TENTATIVE PROGRAM DOLLARS 1.12-1.48 MILLION. END SUMMARY.

1. CAREFULLY PREPARED DETAILED SCHEDULE ARRANGED BY EMBASSY ALLOWED MORE THAN ADEQUATE TIME TECHNICAL DISCUSSION GIRM AGENCIES, FED, FAC, UN. GIRM PRESENTED LIST OF REQUIREMENTS CULLED FROM OUAGADOUGOU SUBMISSION BUT OF MORE IMMEDIATE PRIORITY REHABILITATION NEEDS, SUPPORTED BY DOSSIERS WITH PROJECT DETAILS.

2. DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER DONOR AGENCIES AND GIRM OFFICIALS ALL INDICATE LACK DEPTH IN TECHNICAL COMPETENCE PLAN AND IMPLEMENT ACTIVITIES. AT SAME TIME GIRM OFFICIALS, INCLUDING MINISTERS, NOTED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS AND INVITED US PARTICIPATION. IN THIS CONNECTION, OPPORTUNITIES FOR JOINT PROGRAM GIRM/AID/PC CLEARLY FERTILE GROUND FOR ACTION ESPECIALLY RURAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR TEAMS. THIS SATISFIES DUAL GOALS OF MEETING DROUGHT NEEDS AND EXPANDING ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY THRU NON-FORMAL TRAINING.

3. PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH PERSONALLY AND GIRM OFFICIALS REPEATEDLY NOTED IMPORTANCE SOLUTION WATER PROBLEMS. FOR FIRST TIME, ALSO, GOVERNMENT SHOWED CLEAR AWARENESS INTER-RELATIONSHIP WATER-LIVESTOCK-FORAGE LINKS AND NEED DEVELOP OVERALL STRATEGY AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM. IN THIS REGARD, MINISTER SUPPLY (WHO RESPONSIBLE FOR HYDROLOGY) NOTED NEED FOR MORE RESEARCH BUT ALSO NOTED "ALMOST 100 STUDIES" WATER PROBLEMS ALREADY AVAILABLE. COMMENT: MIT SHOULD BE MADE AWARE AVAILABILITY THESE STUDIES. GIRM EXPRESSED INTEREST COLLABORATION, ESPECIALLY MAKING INPUT FOR JANUARY 1974 MEETING OF EXPERTS FOR LONG TERM.

4. PRESIDENT, IN RELATION TO WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, INQUIRED IN DETAIL POTENTIAL SKYLAB/ERTS AND COMPLEMENTARY PROGRAMS AND INDICATED RECEPTIVITY TO POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE THIS AREA.

5. WHILE IN NOUAKCHOTT, FAO MULTI-DONOR TEAM ARRIVED FOR STUDY GRAIN PRODUCTION FORECASTS, RELIEF REQUIREMENTS, TRANSPORT/STORAGE NEEDS, INCLUDING EMERGENCY ACTIONS. WE INDICATED WISH CLOSELY COOPERATE MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS
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STORAGE. VIEW FAO TEAM TWO-DAY STAY, LACK OF DATA, DIFFICULT BELIEVE ABLE ARRIVE DETAILS OF SITUATION. HOWEVER, FAO TEAM MAY CLARIFY STORAGE REQUIREMENTS MORE PRECISELY FOR US IMMEDIATE ACTION. REQUEST ROME MAKE AVAILABLE PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS STORAGE SITUATION WHEN FAO TEAM RETURNS ROME NEXT WEEK.

6. RE NOUAKCHOTT 937, TASK FORCE BELIEVES MOST STRONGLY THAT

IMPLEMENTATION OF FOLLOW-UP ESSENTIAL FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS
DETAILS AND KEEPING MOMENTUM OF AGREED UPON PROGRAM MOVING,
OTHERWISE NO HOPE SUCCESS IN MAURITANIA. TEAM FULLY RECOGNIZES
PERSONNEL AND SUPPORT NEEDS, AND PRESENT LIMITATIONS US
MISSION. URGE AID/W CONSIDER DETAIL HEALTHY ENERGETIC OFFICER
WITH TRANSPORT RIDE HERD OVER PROPOSED ACTIVITIES, BEGINNING
30 DAYS BEFORE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION (I.E. BY NO LATER
THAN 15 NOVEMBER). THIS NECESSARY IF OFFICER TO BECOME
CONVERSANT WITH GIRM MACHINERY, PARTICIPATE IN PROJECT
DEVELOPMENT AND RECONCILE DESIRABLE ACHIEVABLE APPROACHES.
THIS NOT RPT NOT PART TIME JOB OF VISITING OFFICER, BUT ONE
STATIONED IN NOUAKCHOTT FULL TIME, WITH RESPONSIBILITY AND
AUTHORITY PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTATION WITHIN POLICY DECISIONS AND
FRAMEWORK LAID DOWN BY AID/W.

7. FOR MORE EFFICIENT FUNDING AND FISCAL HANDLING, BELIEVE
BIAO MORE QUALIFIED AND CAPABLE COMPARED TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
BANK. BIAO HANDLING SIMILAR FUNDS OTHER DONORS.

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AFDROUGHT

8. FOLLOWING SUMMARY PROGRAM COMPOSITION:

A. AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION:

A) EXTEND HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL IRRIGATED VEGETABLE
PRODUCTION SCHEME IN FIVE REGIONS. IMPROVE SUB-
SISTENCE AND ENCOURAGE SALES. NEED FERTILIZERS,
HAND TOOLS, SMALL PUMPS, OPERATING COSTS DOLS275-350,000

B) FLOOD PLAIN CULTIVATION (DECRUE)
REPAIR EXISTING RAIN WATER STORAGE DAMS AND
INITIATE WATER SPREADING TECHNIQUES, EXPAND
AND IMPROVE CULTIVABLE AREAS (MAY INCLUDE
PC INPUT FOR REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE
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CAPABILITY) DOLS300-375,000

B) STORAGE

FILL EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS 15,000-25,000 TONS
GRAIN STORAGE, WITH PRIORITY FOR DIFFICULT ACCESS
AREAS ALONG NOUAKCHOTT-NEMA AXIS AND
RIVER. DOLS200-350,000

C. LIVESTOCK

A) ANIMAL HEALTH, INCLUDING VACCINATION/
DEWORMING PROGRAM AND SUPPORTING COSTS DOLS200-250,000

B) IMMEDIATE REMOVAL INOPERATIVE FEEDMILL
FROM NOUAKCHOTT TO ROSSO. IN CONJUNCTION
RDO REGULAR PROGRAM START PRODUCTION MEET
SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING REQUIREMENTS CALVES 45,000

D. HEALTH

EQUIP RURAL HEALTH TEAM FOR VACCINATION,
PREVENTATIVE HEALTH CARE, RURAL DELIVERY
SYSTEM (MAY INCLUDE PC INPUT) 100,000

TOTAL DOLS1.12-1.47 MILLION

9. IN ADDITION, GIRM STRONGLY URGED EARLY ACTION MEDIUM
TERM PROGRAM, CONCENTRATING ON WATER-LIVESTOCK-FORAGE PROBLEM.

TASK FORCE TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED VARIOUS ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SEED MULTIPLICATION PERIMETER, WHICH REQUIRE EARLY BUT COOPERATIVE MULTIDONOR ACTION. IN THIS CONNECTION, GIRM HAS BEEN ASSURED OF OUR FOLLOWING UP NLT END THIS YEAR ON MEDIUM TERM PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT.

10. OTHER DONORS UNIFORMLY NOTE DIFFICULTIES/DELAYS NEGOTIATIONS AND OPERATIONS GIRM. INITIAL TASK FORCE PROGRESS FRANK SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS LARGELY DUE EXCELLENT PRIOR GROUNDWORK AND SUCCESSFUL SCHEDULING BY US MISSION DURING VISIT. MOST APPRECIATIVE EXCELLENT ADVICE AND COOPERATION
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Disposition Event:
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